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SUBJECT: APRIL 24 MFA PRESS BRIEFING: SIX-PARTY TALKS, BDA,  
FOOD CONTAMINATION, TIBET, CHINA-INDIA BOUNDARY TALKS,  
PAKISTAN FM VISIT, YELTSIN'S DEATH

11. Key points at the April 24 MFA Press Conference made by  
MFA Spokesman Liu Jianchao were:

-- Technical questions remain on the Banco Delta Asia issue,  
specifically how DPRK parties can acquire their money through  
normal transfer of funds.

-- Liu made no comment on whether FDA officials would receive  
visas to investigate reports of contaminated food products in  
China.

-- Accusations of increased religious persecution in Tibet  
were discarded as groundless.

-- China calls exchange of ideas during the 10th round of  
boundary talks with India deep, candid and friendly.

-- China and Pakistan exchanged ideas on Afghanistan during  
Pakistan FM Aziz' visit to China.

-- The MFA expressed deep condolences over the death of  
former Russian President Yeltsin who was called a true friend  
to the Chinese people who contributed greatly to the  
Sino-Russian bilateral relationship.

No New Information on BDA Issue, 6-Party Talks  
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12. At the April 24 regular press briefing, MFA Spokesman Liu  
Jianchao again stated that some technical questions remain on  
the BDA issue, specifically how DPRK parties can acquire  
their money through normal transfer of funds. Asked for an  
update on the progress and possible resumption of Six-Party  
Talks, Liu reminded reporters of the Fifth Round's success  
and the commitment of all parties to implement the initial  
actions of the February 13 Joint Document. Additionally, he  
called for cooperative attitudes and efforts to denuclearize  
the Korean peninsula at an early date. Liu did not respond  
to a question asking for comment on Japanese criticism of the  
DPRK's sincerity in shutting down the Yongbyon facilities.

FDA To Investigate Melamine in China?  
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13. When asked if FDA officials would receive visas to visit  
China for the purpose of investigating melamine-tainted food  
products, Liu referred questions to the General  
Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and  
Quarantine.

Groundless Accusations of Persecution in Tibet  
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14. The spokesman expressed China's strong anger at accusations by the NGO International Campaign for Tibet of increased religious persecution in Tibet, discarding the claims as groundless. Asked for information on the whereabouts and personal freedom of the boy chosen by the Dalai Lama as the Panchen Lama, Liu said he is living a free life just like other youths in China.

#### India Border Talks

15. China and India had a deep, candid and friendly exchange of ideas during the 10th round of boundary talks, said Liu. EVFM Dai Bingguo represented China at the talks and met with Indian leaders and Foreign Ministry officials. Both sides have made joint efforts to promote the process and the two countries are enjoying greater cooperation and mutual trust. The next round of talks will be held in China.

#### China, Pakistan Exchange Ideas on Afghanistan

16. During Pakistan PM Aziz's visit to China, the two sides exchanged ideas on Afghanistan and both countries are making joint efforts to promote the peace, stability and development of the region, said Liu in response to questions regarding a China-Pakistan common strategy on Afghanistan. China and Pakistan are friendly neighbors committed to further developing their strategic partnership, Liu added.

#### "Deep Condolences" Over Yeltsin's Passing Away

17. The spokesman expressed the MFA's deep condolences over

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the death of former Russian President Yeltsin and praised him as a true friend to the Chinese people who contributed greatly to the Sino-Russian bilateral relationship. Liu was unaware of whether leaders from other countries were invited to attend tomorrow's funeral service, adding if a China sends a telegraph of condolences the MFA will release the relevant information.

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